



February 20, 2001

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## HOUSE BILL No. 1386

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DIGEST OF HB 1386 (Updated February 15, 2001 9:45 AM - DI 96)

**Citations Affected:** IC 36-8.

**Synopsis:** Lights on volunteer fire vehicles. Provides that a member of a volunteer fire department may display blue lights on the member's privately owned vehicle while en route to a fire station to get firefighting equipment to transport to the scene of a fire or other emergency in the line of duty. Provides that no person who is not a member of a volunteer fire department may display a blue light of any size or shape on a motor vehicle.

**Effective:** July 1, 2001.

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**Herndon, Cook, Ruppel, Bischoff**

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January 11, 2001, read first time and referred to Committee on Roads and Transportation.  
February 19, 2001, amended, reported — Do Pass.

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HB 1386—LS 7588/DI 87+





February 20, 2001

First Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2001)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2000 General Assembly.

## HOUSE BILL No. 1386

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning local government.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 36-8-12-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.1-1999,  
2 SECTION 96, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 11. (a) **Subject to the conditions set forth in**  
4 **subsection (b)**, members of volunteer fire departments may display  
5 blue lights on their privately owned vehicles while en route:

6 (1) to scenes of fires or other emergencies in the line of duty;  
7 **subject to and**

8 (2) **to a fire station to get firefighting equipment to transport**  
9 **to the scene of a fire or other emergency in the line of duty.**

10 (b) **The lights displayed on a member's privately owned vehicle**  
11 **must satisfy** the following conditions:

12 (1) A light must have a light source of at least fifty (50)  
13 candlepower.

14 (2) All lights must be placed on the top of the vehicle. In addition,  
15 lights may be placed on the front of the vehicle upon the bumper  
16 or at bumper level.

17 (3) No more than four (4) blue lights may be displayed on one (1)

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vehicle, and each blue light must be of the flashing or revolving type and visible for three hundred sixty (360) degrees, except for lights that are placed on the front of the vehicle.

(4) A blue light must consist of a lamp with a blue lens, not of an uncolored lens with a blue bulb. However, a revolving light may contain multiple bulbs.

(5) A blue light may not be a part of the regular head lamps displayed on the vehicles.

~~(b)~~ (c) In order for a volunteer firefighter to display a blue light on his vehicle, he must secure a written permit from the chief of the volunteer fire department to use the blue light and must carry the permit at all times when the blue light is displayed.

~~(c)~~ (d) A person who is not a member of a volunteer fire department may not display a blue light of any size or shape on a motor vehicle. ~~except a school bus used to transport children to or from a public or private school.~~

~~(d)~~ (e) A permittee of the owner of a vehicle lawfully equipped with a blue light may operate the vehicle only if the blue light is not illuminated.

~~(e)~~ (f) A person who violates subsection (a), (b), (c), ~~or~~ (d), ~~or~~ (e), commits a Class C infraction. If the violator is a member of a volunteer fire department, the chief of the department shall dismiss him from membership in the department.

~~(f)~~ (g) This section does not grant a vehicle displaying blue lights the right-of-way under IC 9-21-8-35 or exemption from traffic rules under IC 9-21-1-8. A driver of a vehicle displaying a blue light shall obey all traffic rules.

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## COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Speaker: Your Committee on Roads and Transportation, to which was referred House Bill 1386, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the House with the recommendation that said bill be amended as follows:

Page 2, line 14, delete "," and insert ".".

Page 2, strike lines 15 through 16.

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to HB 1386 as introduced.)

GOODIN, Chair

Committee Vote: yeas 8, nays 0.

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